

County of Manistee



April 10, 2015

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Room TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554

Office of the Sheriff

Dale Kowalkowski
Sheriff

Received & inspected

APR 17 2015

FCC Mail Room

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Re: **Ex Parte Communication**

WC Docket No. 12-375; Inmate Calling Services

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The Manistee County Sheriff's Office hereby files an *ex parte* communication in connection with the above-referenced proceeding. The Manistee County Sheriff's Office supports the comments and reply comments filed by the National Sheriffs' Association in this proceeding. The purpose of this filing is to submit additional information specific to this office in support of NSA's position that Sheriffs must be allowed to recover their costs if ICS are to continue to be widely available in jails.

Inmate calling is a discretionary service in our jail and it is allowed for the benefit of inmates and their families. If we are not permitted to recover the costs associated with the provision of ICS, then we can and we may be forced to significantly limit or eliminate altogether access to inmate phones in our jail. Currently, we have the incentive to allow significant access to ICS and inmates are able to make calls throughout the day. Denying payments to jails or restricting such payments to levels that do not at least cover our costs, will have the effect of reducing the incentive and ability to continue to allow ICS in this manner.

Our budget expenses continue to rise every year, and we anticipate this will continue. In addition to security and administrative functions that must be maintained, there are programs for inmates that we are required to maintain by law. Phone income funds help provide these programs

Accordingly, Sheriffs incur significant costs in allowing ICS in jails and Sheriffs must be allowed to recover their costs to be able to continue to allow ICS and to encourage the deployment of ICS in jails.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of Dale Kowalkowski in black ink.

Dale Kowalkowski
Sheriff

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABCDE